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FRINTON AND WALTON  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

FOR 1951

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# Frinton & Walton Urban District Council

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1951

Chairman of the Council:

A. C. SOUTH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

H. A. GIRT

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### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

H. M. GIRLING (Chairman)

W. E. GRANT (Vice-Chairman)

Mrs. C. A. COOPER, C.C.

A. GIBSON

H. A. GIRT

R. L. MANN

W. J. OXLEY, (Capt.) M.B.E.

C. RAWLINGS

A. C. SOUTH, J.P.

J. W. THOMAS (Rev.)

Public Health Department,  
The Council House,  
Frinton-on-Sea.  
August, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Frinton & Walton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Cooper, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report which deals with the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1951.

The vital statistics for the year, in-so-far as they may be used as an index of the general health of the population, may be said to be satisfactory.

The cost of the National Health Service makes it apparent that ill-health is very expensive and clearly shows, if only from a financial aspect, the lasting value of preventive medicine. There is still much to be done in the prevention of disease, and among the most important duties that remain to local authorities is education in healthy and happy living. The importance of mental health is realised, and there is a large field of mental illness in the community awaiting preventive action. Attention to this subject will no doubt increase when the number and qualifications of staff employed by local authorities is adequate to undertake this specialised work.

The prevention of disease is of more benefit to the community than the treatment of an established disease, and it is only by devoting more of our resources to the aspect of prevention that we can begin to reduce the huge cost of the health services generally.

The housing shortage has resulted, in many cases, in the crowding of related families in the same house which is, no doubt, a factor in promoting tension and mental illhealth. Two or more families sharing amenities in one house is a social evil which is prevalent and is little, if at all, better from a health point of view than the sub-standard condition of certain houses in which a single family resides.

In the present shortage of houses I would say that some houses are not fit to house young families, but might be regarded as less unsuitable for middle aged or older persons.

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their support, and also to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the various officers and their departments of the Council, and particularly to Mr. John Grey, Sanitary Inspector.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,  
F. GROARKE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

# STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District of	....	....	....	....	....	Frinton & Walton
Area in acres	....	....	....	....	....	6,293
Population:						
1951 Census	....	....	....	....	....	8,448
1951 Registrar General's Estimate	....	....	....	....	....	8,136
Density of estimated population per acre	....	....	....	....	....	1.29
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	£110,459
Sum represented by a penny rate	....	....	....	....	....	£441
Number of inhabited houses	....	....	....	....	....	3,059
Total live births	....	....	....	....	....	84
Birth rate	....	....	....	....	....	10.3
Birth rate corrected	....	....	....	....	....	11.4
Total still births	....	....	....	....	....	6
Still birth rate	....	....	....	....	....	66.6
Total deaths	....	....	....	....	....	128
Death rate (crude)	....	....	....	....	....	15.7
Death rate corrected	....	....	....	....	....	11.2
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	....	....	....	....	....	3
Infant Mortality rate	....	....	....	....	....	35.7
Number of Illegitimate births	....	....	....	....	....	2
Percentage of total births	....	....	....	....	....	2.4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cancer deaths	....	....	....	....	....	22
Tuberculosis deaths	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

## VITAL STATISTICS

### (a) LIVE BIRTHS:

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	....	....	39	43	82
Illegitimate	....	....	1	1	2
			—	—	—
Totals	....		40	44	84
			—	—	—

Birth rate ..... 10.3 per 1,000 population  
 Percentage of illegitimate births ..... 2.4%

The birth rate of England and Wales was 15.5 per 1,000 population, our rate is therefore, 5.2 below that for the country generally.

A reason for this inequality is due to the difference in the age and sex distribution of the Urban District from the country as a whole.

A comparability factor is therefore issued by the Registrar General. The figure for Frinton and Walton is 1.11 giving a corrected birth rate of 11.4.

### (b) STILL BIRTHS:

There were 6 still births (6 legitimate) during the year, equivalent to a rate of 0.73 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.36 for the country generally, or 66.6 per 1,000 total births.

### (c) DEATHS:

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 128 (58 male and 70 female). This is equal to a death rate of 15.7 per 1,000 population compared with a rate of 12.5 for the country generally.

This inequality is due to the reasons given in the paragraph on births. The comparability factor is 0.71 giving a corrected death rate of 11.2.

Of the 128 deaths, the number over the age of 65 years total 98 giving a percentage of 76.6.

The causes of death are given in Table II.

### (d) INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

There were 3 deaths (legitimate) of children under 1 year of age. The infant mortality based upon the number of live births registered in the year, i.e. 84 is equivalent to a rate of 35.7 per 1,000 births compared with a rate of 29.6 for the country.

### (e) Among the principal causes of death are the following:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	..	Nil
Bronchitis	....	....	5
Influenza	....	....	5
Cancer	....	....	22
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	19
Heart Disease	....	....	49

TABLE I

## DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1951

Under 1 year	....	....	....	....	3
1 and under 2 years	....	....	....	....	1
2 and under 5 years	....	....	....	....	—
5 and under 15 years	....	....	....	....	1
15 and under 25 years	....	....	....	....	1
25 and under 35 years	....	....	....	....	—
35 and under 45 years	....	....	....	....	1
45 and under 55 years	....	....	....	....	9
55 and under 65 years	....	....	....	....	14
65 and under 75 years	....	....	....	....	43
75 years and upwards	....	....	....	....	55
Total					<hr/> 128 <hr/>

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS

		Frinton	Walton	Kirby	Gt. Holland
Total Deaths	....	43	49	22	14
Infant Deaths	....	—	1	—	2

TABLE II  
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1951 (R.G.)

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Infective and parasitic disease ....	1	—	1
Cancer ....	10	12	22
Leukaemia ...	—	1	1
Diabetes ....	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system ....	6	13	19
Heart Disease ....	20	29	49
Influenza ....	3	2	5
Bronchitis ....	3	2	5
Other diseases of respiratory system ....	1	2	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ....	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis ....	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate ....	1	—	1
Congenital Malformations ....	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ....	7	3	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents ....	1	—	1
All other accidents ....	1	2	3
	—	—	—
All causes ....	58	70	128
	—	—	—

TABLE III  
INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the causes of and the ages at death, of the infantile deaths registered:—

	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 week to 1 mth.	1 to 2 mths.	2 to 4 mths.	4 to 6 mths.	6 to 12 mths.	Total
Prematurity	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3



TABLE IV.  
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Birth rates, deaths rate, analysis of mortality, maternal mortality and case rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1951. Provisional figures based on quarterly returns.

Rates per 1,000 Home population.

	F. & W. U.D.C.	England & Wales
<b>Births :</b>		
Live births (corrected) ....	11.4	15.5
Still births ....	0.73	0.36
<b>Deaths :</b>		
All causes (corrected) ....	11.2	12.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ....	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ....	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria ....	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ....	0.00	0.31
Influenza ....	0.61	0.38
Smallpox ....	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ....	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ....	0.00	0.61
<b>Notifications (Corrected) :</b>		
Typhoid Fever ....	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ....	0.00	0.02
Meningococcal Infection ....	0.00	0.03
Scarlet Fever ....	1.2	1.11
Whooping Cough ....	2.7	3.87
Diphtheria ....	0.00	0.02
Erysipelas ....	0.00	0.14
Smallpox ....	0.00	0.00
Measles ....	7.8	14.07
Pneumonia ....	1.8	0.99
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic ....	0.00	0.03
Non-paralytic ....	0.00	0.02
Food Poisoning ....	0.00	0.13
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.		
<b>Deaths :</b>		
All causes under 1 year of age ...	35.7	29.6
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	11.9	1.4
<b>Notifications (Corrected) Rates per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births</b>		
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ....	22.2	10.66

# MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND & WALES

Cause	Number of Deaths		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still Births)		Rates per million women aged 15-44	
	F & W U.D.C.	Eng. & Wales	F & W U.D.C.	England & Wales	F & W U.D.C.	England & Wales
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ....	—	70	—	0.10		
Abortion with toxæmia ....	—	3	—	0.00	—	0
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium ....	—	167	—	0.24		
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth ....	—	91	—	0.13		
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ....	—	37	—	0.05	—	4
Abortion with sepsis	—	66	—	0.09	—	7
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ....	—	125	—	0.18		

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### (a) STAFFING:

- (i) The Medical Officer of Health holds the following appointments:—

Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Districts of Frinton and Walton, Clacton, Brightlingsea, and to the Rural District of Tendring.

Assistant County Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Essex County Council.

- (ii) Sanitary Inspector:

Sanitary Inspectors are members of a team of health workers which include doctors, nurses, social workers, and various medical auxiliaries ; each member of the team contributes his quota to the promotion of good health, social welfare, and the alleviation of suffering among the population. Sanitary Inspectors are concerned with the special field of environmental health, which includes the places where people live and work, the food and drink they consume, the air they breathe, the influence on health of deleterious conditions in the neighbourhood, the securing of good hygienic conditions wherever they are found below standard, and certain aspects of infectious and other diseases.

The Sanitary Inspector should be regarded as a specialised worker in the field of preventive medicine.

#### (b) LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Pathological specimens are examined at the Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Samples of water, sewage, etc., for chemical analysis are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies, ice cream, etc., is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

It is necessary for the health department of any authority to make full use of the laboratory facilities in the area, and I would like to express my appreciation for the co-operation and help which this department has received from the staff of these laboratories.

(c) HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL:

- (i) Nursing in the Home.
- (ii) Midwives.
- (iii) Health Visitors.
- (iv) Home Helps.
- (v) Immunisation.
- (vi) Clinics.
- (vii) School Medical Service.
- (viii) Ambulance Service.

Maternity and Child Welfare:

Clinics are held at the Congregational Church Hall, Station Street, Walton, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in each month.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer is in attendance  
Diphtheria Immunisations are carried out at these Clinics.

MINOR AILMENTS

Arrangements are made for School Children to attend the Clinic

SPECIAL CLINICS

The following Clinics are held at the Welfare Centre, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton, which can be attended by appointment:

WOMEN'S WELFARE

OPHTHALMIC

ORTHOPAEDIC

CHILD GUIDANCE

ANTE-NATAL

DENTAL

PSYCHIATRIC

(d) HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

TUBERCULOSIS

A chest clinic is held at No. 2 Shewell Road, Colchester, daily and on Friday mornings at the Combined Treatment Centre, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Facilities are provided at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester and at Harwich.

## HOSPITALS FOR THE CHRONIC SICK

Heath Hospital, Tendring.  
St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester.

## HOSPITAL FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Myland Hospital, Colchester.

## MATERNITY

Borough Maternity Hospital, Lexden Road, Colchester.  
St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester.

## GENERAL

Essex County Hospital, Colchester.  
Clacton Hospital.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

It was not necessary during 1951 to take action which empowers Local Authorities to remove to hospital persons in need of care and attention.

There are many old persons in this, as in other districts, living alone who would undoubtedly be better cared for physically in an institution where they would have regular suitable food, clean clothes and a clean bed to sleep in, but human nature being what it is, the majority of these persons prefer to be left in their own homes no matter how insanitary that is. The mental well-being of these old persons is of equal importance to physical care, and it is only when we have exhausted all other channels of help that we consider taking action under the above Acts.

We try to arrange for a relative to help, but the cases which are brought to our notice are usually those that have no relatives or have relatives who are unable or unwilling to help.

The Home Help Service is of great value in such cases. We arrange and pay a woman to visit daily and assist in the running of the home. Unfortunately suitable Home Helps are scarce and the service is an expensive one for the County Council to maintain, but this service has been a success and is becoming more and more in demand, particularly for the aged and infirm for whom adequate institutional accommodation is lacking.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### WATER SUPPLY

The main water supply to this district is derived from the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company's deep wells at Lawford and Dedham.

A number of cottages in the village of Kirby-le-Soken obtain water from a public well which is piped to seven points in the main street.

A few houses in the rural areas rely for water on private wells.

Bacteriological examinations made of the raw water before it passes into the distribution mains have proved satisfactory. The water supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source as an additional precautionary measure.

It is usual for water to show some deterioration in quality during its passage from source to consumer. Samples of water taken on consumers' premises occasionally show this, and measures are taken to ascertain the source of pollution if such deterioration has occurred. The storage of water in open cisterns under the roof is a cause for deterioration in some cases, while in other cases the use of the anti-splash device fitted to some kitchen taps appears to act as a trap for organic matter in the water, which matter may act as a culture medium for bacteria and give rise to some deterioration.

#### Hardness.

The water supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company's Lawford Works is very much harder than a larger proportion of public supplies and is unusually hard for main water.

The Company's new source at Dedham is, however, capable of providing a water of 200 p.p.m. less in total hardness than Lawford, so that the mixture of the two waters should result in a reduction of at least 180 p.p.m. of total hardness.

The advantages of a softer water are a saving of soap (a reduction of 180 parts would give a saving of between two and three pounds of soap per head per year), saving in work and deterioration of fabrics, also a reduction in deposits of scale in domestic and industrial water heating apparatus.

It is practicable to soften the water to a reasonable level, but the capital charges for plant and the operational cost would be considerable, particularly as the water supplied from both sources show a high chlorine content, and therefore have a latent corrosive tendency. Any softening process must be carefully regulated to avoid accentuating this characteristic. The cost of softening this water would probably be in excess of 5d. per thousand gallons, and would reduce the hardness from the 'very



hard' to the 'moderately hard' class which would not be sufficient to prevent the deposition of scale on water heating apparatus, but would slow the process down.

The Company must, if and when the Ministry of Housing and Local Government shall so require, soften their water so that it shall not have a hardness exceeding 180 parts per million.

#### Corrosion.

Consumers complain that the water supplied at their premises is sometimes discoloured. The substance which discolours the water is iron oxide which results from a reaction between the water and the main, but has no connection with the hardness of the water.

The main reason for this corrosion is the high chloride content in the water supplied from the deep well at Lawford. The Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company have recently introduced measures to reduce this corrosive tendency which include aeration of the water to reduce carbon dioxide, alteration of the pH by the use of soda ash, and by pumping only the minimum quantity necessary from the Lawford well have considerably lowered the chloride content of the bulk supply.

Corrosion results in the formation of encrustations on the interior of the mains which reduces their carrying capacity and may lower the pressure. In the wet state this deposit is soft and is easily scraped off. When the velocity of the water in the main increases, some of this encrustation may come away and discolour the water—hence the complaints which we receive.

#### 1.—WATER SUPPLY.

##### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

				Lawford Works		Dedham Works	
				Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
Colour	....	....	....	Less than 10	Nil	Less than 10	Nil
Reaction pH	....	....	....	7.4	7.3	7.9	7.3
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	....	....	....	2250	2100	1020	640
Chlorine in Chlorides	....	....	....	590	540	165	62
Hardness. Total	....	....	....	500	460	285	255
Temporary	....	....	....	270	255	260	245
Permanent	....	....	....	230	205	25	10
Nitrogen in Nitrates	....	....	....	0	0	0	0
Free Ammonia	....	....	....	1.4	0.76	0.44	0.12
Metals. Iron	....	....	....	0.40	0.21	0.24	0.11
Turbidity	....	....	....	4	Less than 3	3	Less than 3
Odour	....	....	....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	....	....	....	19	15	18	5
Total Solids	....	....	....	1450	1290	670	430
Alkalinity	....	....	....	270	255	260	245

Nitrogen in Nitrates	....	0.01	Less than 0.01	0.01	Less than 0.01
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	....	0.35	0.15	0.10	Absent
Residual Chlorine	....	0.10	Absent	0.18	0.05
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	0.020	Absent	Nil	Nil

### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	....	....	....	Present —	Present —
				Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
Bact. Coli	....	....	....	Present —	Present —
				Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	....	....	....	Present —	Present —
				Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
No. of Colonies developing on Agar per cc or ml in	....	1 day at 37°C		1 day at 37°C	
		0		0	
		2 days at 37°C		2 days at 37°C	
		0		0	
		3 days at 20°C		3 days at 20°C	
		0		0	

Remarks	This sample has slight opalescence causing noticeable but not marked turbidity. The water is neutral in reaction, free from metals apart from a trace of iron. It is extremely hard in character though not excessively so and has a high though not excessive content of mineral constituents in solution. The water is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity consistent with a pure and wholesome condition and suitability for public supply purposes.	This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. These results are consistent with a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.
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The public well water supply in Kirby-le-Soken continues to be satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

During the year, a new 9 inch diameter main was laid from Ashes Farm to Harmer's Foundry for the improvement of the supply to Walton-on-Naze. A short section of this main was brought into service in time for the summer peak of 1951, and this had the effect of increasing the pressure in the town by about 15 feet. The remainder of the main should be brought into service by the commencement of the 1952 summer season.

Work was also commenced on the construction of a 500,000 gallon service reservoir near the Water Tower at Frinton-on-Sea. Progress was unfortunately halted pending receipt of the necessary reinforcement steel which, it is understood, has since been promised by the manufacturer for delivery in May/June, 1952.

The approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied by public water mains is:—

				Houses	Population
A.	Direct to houses	....	....	2800	7570
B.	Standpipes	....	....	240	680

## 2. RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION.

Temporary pollution of Kirby Brook occurred during July when the water became heavily discoloured and gave off an offensive odour. The pollution cleared itself within a period of three weeks when the water assumed its normal condition of cleanliness. The cause of the pollution is believed to have been overflow sillage from a farm. There has been no recurrence of pollution.

## 3.—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

A decision has not yet been reached by the Council in connection with the commencement of the major sewerage scheme referred to in last year's Report.

Sewering for the new Bemerton Housing Estate was practically completed during 1951, comprising 325 lineal yds. of 6" and 9" diameter foul sewers and 831 lineal yds. of 6" to 18" diameter surface water sewers, the latter discharging to a water course.

A summary is contained in the following pages of drainage improvements carried out during the year.

## 4.—MORTUARY.

There were no alterations in the maintenance and supervisory arrangements of the Mortuary provided by the Council in Walton-on-Naze Cemetery. During the twelve months period ending 31st March, 1952, a total of 12 bodies were received into the Mortuary and 8 post-mortem examinations carried out.

## 5. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No. of Infested Houses	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	3
No. of Houses Disinfested	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	3

### Methods Employed in Disinfestation.

Loosening skirting boards, picture rails and other woodwork, lifting floorboards if necessary, stripping wallpaper, etc., followed by spraying walls, floors and furniture with an approved Insecticide containing D.D.T. and/or fumigation, the procedure being repeated at intervals until disinfestation is complete. Steam disinfection of bedding.

## 6.—SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of Primary and Secondary Schools, and Private Schools is satisfactory.

## 7. BYELAWS.

Byelaws relating to the following matters are in operation.

- (a) Camping Grounds and Movable Dwellings (1936).
- (b) Cleansing of Earth-closets, Privies and Cesspools (1936).
- (c) Slaughterhouses (1936).
- (d) Nuisances (1936).
- (e) Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises (1936).
- (f) Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food (1950).

## REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse removal is by modern side-loading mechanical vehicles. Three vehicles are engaged in the work all the year round, and a fourth vehicle is brought into commission during the summer season. Refuse is removed weekly from all dwelling-houses. Hotels, restaurants, large boarding houses, camping grounds and trade premises are cleared as often as required.

Refuse from trade premises and camping grounds is removed by arrangement. Income from these sources during 1951 totalled £338.

The total weight of refuse collected during the year was approximately 3,700 tons.

Refuse disposal is by incineration and partly controlled tipping. The Disposal Site is at Kirby-le-Soken. Insufficient suitable covering materials are available for screening the tipped refuse. Apart from occasional loads of brick rubble, sweepings, etc., the only covering materials available are small quantities of ashes and the residue of burnt refuse.

The area of the site used for tipping has extended considerably in recent years, and is becoming too extensive to handle by a single labourer. It will be necessary within the next year or so for consideration to be given to the provision of additional labour and/or mechanical aid in order to dispose adequately of the large volume of refuse dealt with—particularly during the holiday season.

Rodents are controlled by regular poisoning campaigns carried out by the Council's rodent operative.

## SALVAGE.

The weight and value of salvage collected and sold during the year is shown in the following summary:—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ....	74	13	3	0	1220	1	6
Metals ....	2	1	3	0	20	16	9
Textiles ....		17	0	0	30	5	0
String & Misc. ....		3	0	0		19	2
Totals ....	77	15	2	0	1272	2	5

The Council's entire output of waste paper is disposed of under Contract, to The Thames Board Mills, Purfleet, Essex, at guaranteed prices during the operation of the Contract.

## STREET SCAVENGING.

Roads are regularly scavenged by street sweepers supplied with orderly trucks, the more important roads being swept daily. By arrangement with the County Council the cleansing of classified roads is also undertaken by the Council.

Street gullies are regularly cleansed by mechanical means (hired service).

A trailer gritting machine is available for use in frosty or icy road conditions, and the Council possess a snow-plough for use with a tractor when required.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Maintenance and cleansing arrangements are satisfactory, but the shortage of suitable male and female staff for seasonal duties made it difficult to service the conveniences adequately during the summer months. The staffing of conveniences during the holiday season has developed into a serious feature, and ways and means have to be found in dealing with this problem if all twelve public conveniences are to be kept open during the summer.

Towards the end of the year the Estates and Works Committee was engaged in selecting a suitable Site for an additional convenience near the main shopping centre in Frinton-on-Sea between the greensward and the Railway Station. The provision of a convenience, easily accessible to shoppers, as proposed will serve a need which has become apparent during the past few years.

Particulars of existing public conveniences in the Urban District are appended:—

	W.C.'s			Wash-Basins	
	Male	Female	Urinals	Male	Female
Frinton-on-Sea					
Connaught Avenue	2	3	3 stalls	—	1
Cambridge Road	2	3	3 „	—	—
Kiosk	2	4	3 „	—	1
Totals	6	10	9 „	—	2

Walton-on-Naze					
Central	4	8	6 stalls	3	3
Pier	4	7	6 „	3	4
Southcliffe	4	4	4 „	3	3
Eastcliffe	3	5	3 „	2	2
Naze Park Road	4	5	4 „	4	4
Coronation	2	3	4' plain	1	1
Church Road	1	1	—	1	1
Round Gardens	2	—	4 stalls	3	—
Mill Lane	2	—	2 „	—	—
Totals	26	33	30 „	20	18

#### SUMMARY

	W.C.'s			Wash-Basins	
	Male	Female	Urinals	Male	Female
Frinton-on-Sea	6	10	9	—	2
Walton-on-Naze	26	33	30	20	18
Totals	32	43	39	20	20

## SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS, AND NOTICES SERVED.

Nature of Inspections	No. of Inspections
Water Supply and Wells ....	23
Dairies and Milkshops ....	61
Slaughterhouses ....	4
Butchers Premises ....	58
Bakeries ....	33
Hotel Kitchens ....	4
Restaurant Kitchens ....	74
Other Food Premises ....	31
Food Vehicles and Stalls ....	19
Food Inspections ....	49
Licensed Premises ....	5
Sanitary Nuisances ....	57
Camping Grounds ....	81
Beach Estates ....	6
Public Conveniences ....	141
Refuse Collection and Disposal ....	49
Salvage ....	24
Mortuary ....	5
Petroleum Acts ....	14
Drainage ....	73
Tenancy Applications ....	117
Rodent Control ....	180
Hairdressers Establishments ....	3
Factories ....	63
Cinema ....	2
Infectious Diseases ....	21
School Canteens ....	9
<hr/>	
Informal Notices Served, including letters and instructions ....	341
Statutory Notices Served ....	2

### Details of Sanitary Improvements Effected during the Year.

#### Housing Repairs and Improvements.

Nature of Inspections	No. of Inspections
Roofs repaired ....	19
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed ....	7
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed ....	5
Rainwater butts renewed ....	2
Brickwork repaired or re-pointed ....	7
Walls cement rendered ....	6
Damp walls treated ....	3

Kitchens renovated	....	....	....	....	4
Kitchens, concrete floors provided	....	....	....	....	2
Floors renewed	....	....	....	....	25
Floors repaired	....	....	....	....	14
Ceilings renewed	....	....	....	....	7
Ceilings repaired	....	....	....	....	11
Wallplaster renewed	....	....	....	....	8
Wallplaster repaired	....	....	....	....	6
Doors renewed	....	....	....	....	4
Doors repaired	....	....	....	....	4
Windows renewed	....	....	....	....	5
Windows repaired	....	....	....	....	9
Windows, additional, provided	....	....	....	....	4
Firegrates repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	2
Cooking ranges renewed	....	....	....	....	3
Cooking ranges repaired	....	....	....	....	2
Larder ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	5
Rooms—ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	8
Rooms—outbuildings obstructing natural lighting, removed	....	....	....	....	8
Rooms redecorated	....	....	....	....	9

#### Drainage:

Drains renewed	....	....	....	....	....	11
Drains improved	....	....	....	....	....	19
Drains repaired	....	....	....	....	....	17
Drains cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	13
Cesspools repaired	....	....	....	....	....	5
Cesspools emptied	....	....	....	....	....	9
Septic tanks provided	....	....	....	....	....	3
Septic tanks improved	....	....	....	....	....	2
Water-closets—accommodation rebuilt	....	....	....	....	....	3
—accommodation repaired	....	....	....	....	....	7
—accommodation cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	14
—accommodation redecorated	....	....	....	....	....	12
—pans provided	....	....	....	....	....	11
—flushing cisterns provided	....	....	....	....	....	9
—flushing cisterns repaired	....	....	....	....	....	8
—doors repaired	....	....	....	....	....	3
—compartments screened	....	....	....	....	....	2
Kitchen sinks renewed	....	....	....	....	....	7
Kitchen sinks repaired	....	....	....	....	....	2
Kitchen sinks provided	....	....	....	....	....	8
Draining boards provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Baths provided	....	....	....	....	....	3
Wash-hand basins provided	....	....	....	....	....	5



Water Supply:				
Water service pipes repaired	....	....	....	5
Internal water supply provided	....	....	....	8
Miscellaneous:				
Accumulations removed	....	....	....	4
Piggery improvements	....	....	....	3
Animal nuisances abated	....	....	....	7
Ditches cleansed	....	....	....	2
Insect nuisances abated	....	....	....	28
Overgrown land cleared	....	....	....	1
Rooms cleansed	....	....	....	8
Rooms disinfected	....	....	....	6
Sanitary dustbins provided	....	....	....	55

#### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

During the year under review, a survey was completed of all premises within the Urban District in respect of which the health provisions of the Factories Acts apply. The Register of Factories was amended in the light of the information obtained, and it now contains particulars of 91 factory premises of which 53 use mechanical power. Full particulars of the survey were reported to the Council in October, and at the same time a brief summary was forwarded to H.M. Inspector of Factories. Some 63 inspections were made during the year, mainly for the purpose of bringing up-to-date the Register of Factories which the Council is required to keep, but opportunity was taken at the same time of ensuring that the health provisions of the Acts were being complied with.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written & verbal Notices
Factories without mechanical power	38	29	8
Factories with mechanical power	53	34	4
Totals	91	63	12

#### DEFECTS REMEDIED

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	4	4
Inadequate ventilation	2	2
Defective drainage of floors	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—		
Insufficient	2	2
Defective	2	2
Other offences....	2	2
Totals	12	12

## SECTION D

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

**Milk Supply.**—There are three registered dairies in the Urban District, all of which are in good structural condition, well lighted and ventilated and provided with adequate supplies of hot and cold water. Modern equipment is in use in connection with dairy processes, and bottle-washing and milk-bottling arrangements are satisfactory. No serious faults were found during a total of 61 inspections, and a number of casual visits. Milkshops and milk-stores were also inspected, as well as vehicles used for the conveyance and distribution of milk.

Licences granted to retail Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised milk were issued to 5 dairymen.

Samples of Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and undesignated milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich, for bacteriological examination, and all grades of milk satisfied the prescribed tests. In addition, specimen washed milk bottles in use at each of the three dairies were sent for examination. Excessive colonies of bacteria were reported in the group of bottles from one of the dairies, indicating a serious defect in the bottle-washing process. The dairy was visited, and as a result improved equipment and methods were introduced by the dairymen in connection with the bottle-washing processes. Further bottle specimens were subsequently examined with very good results.

A number of minor improvements to dairies and equipment were carried out as a result of informal action.

**Meat Supply.**— Meat is allocated at Colchester under Ministry of Food control and transported in covered vans direct to local butchers' premises, where it is inspected as occasion arises by the Sanitary Inspector. Only a small quantity of meat had to be condemned during the year. The condition of meat vans is kept under observation, together with the handling and distribution of meat by the van-men and any matter calling for attention is referred to the Ministry of Food at Colchester.

During the year, 58 visits of inspection were made to butchers premises, and as a result of informal action the following improvements were carried out.

Tiled floors provided	....	....	....	1
Walls tiled	....	....	....	4
Walls part-tiled	....	....	....	3
Walls painted	....	....	....	4
Ceilings painted	....	....	....	2
Cold store redecorated	....	....	....	1



Cold store re-sited to provide additional kitchen working space	....	....	1
Chopping blocks renewed	....	....	2
Staff washing facilities provided	....	....	2

Following complaints in May of the condition of foreign cooked ham purchased in a local provision shop, a sample was sent for examination to The Public Health Laboratory. Microscopic and cultural examination showed no evidence of pathogenic bacteria in the meat.

**Bakeries.**— Regular routine inspections were made of the 10 bakeries in the area, particular attention also being paid to the condition of bread delivery vehicles and food hygiene. It was necessary to take strict action to secure that bread in baskets, during delivery, is covered and adequately protected from dust, dirt and insect contamination, and towards the end of the year there was a noticeable improvement.

The following improvements to Bakeries were effected:—			
Bakeries redecorated throughout	....	....	2
Wallplaster renewed	....	....	4
Wallplaster repaired	....	....	3
Wall surfaces painted	....	....	8
Floors part-tiled	....	....	1
Concrete floors repaired	....	....	1
Concrete floors renewed	....	....	1
Additional window provided	....	....	1
Improved flour storage arrangements	....	....	1
Dough troughs renewed	....	....	4
Window and door fly-screens provided	....	....	12
Staff washing arrangements improved	....	....	2

### Food Premises, Stalls and Vehicles

The following improvements were carried out to foodshops as a result of informal action.

#### Restaurants:

Kitchens cleansed and decorated	....	....	4
Kitchens extended to provide additional working space	....	....	3
Additional natural lighting and ventilation provided	....	....	2
Concrete floors provided	....	....	2
Concrete floors repaired	....	....	1
Hand-washing facilities for public use provided	....	....	2
Hand-washing facilities for staff improved	....	....	4
Storerooms cleansed and redecorated	....	....	3
Glass-fronted showcases provided	....	....	5

### Provision Merchants:

Shop extended to provide more working space, and additional lighting and ventilation	....	....	....	1
Improvements to natural lighting	....	....	....	3
Cellar storage accommodation cleansed and decorated	....	....	....	1
Shops and stores redecorated	....	....	....	4
Defective wash-hand basins renewed	....	....	....	2
Staff washing facilities provided	....	....	....	2

### Fishshops:

Improvements to fishshops consisted of the installation at two premises of glass-fronted screens and covers in order to protect fish exposed for sale on slabs from dust and fly contamination.

As a result of action taken, the sale of wet fish from a vehicle unsuitable for the purpose, was discontinued.

### Licensed Premises:

New bar sinks installed	....	....	....	....	....	3
Drainage provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Drainage arrangements improved	....	....	....	....	....	2
Hot water supplies provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Beer cellar cleansed and lime-washed	....	....	....	....	....	1

### School Canteens:

No action was necessary in respect of School Canteens and kitchens which were found to be in satisfactory condition whenever inspected. The transportation of meals to Schools not provided with canteen facilities, was also satisfactory including food storage arrangements and vehicles

### Clubs:

Towards the end of the year, agreement had been reached between the Council and management of a local sports club regarding the extent of urgent and necessary works of improvement required to the club kitchen arrangements. The first stage of the work is to be completed during 1952, and remaining work by the Spring of 1953.

### Ice-Cream:

There were 4 manufacturers and 54 vendors of ice-cream on the Register at the end of the year. Premises, stalls, etc., were regularly inspected and found to comply with the provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment Etc.) Regulations.

### Food Stalls and Vehicles:

Food stalls and vehicles were kept under observation, and action taken as required to secure cleanly conditions in respect of

the handling and distribution of foodstuffs. Following informal action, a defective milk delivery vehicle was replaced, two green-grocers vans were cleansed and one van repainted, a fruit stall was protected from dust contamination and two ice-cream conservators provided with top and side glass screens.

## Food Hygiene:

Constant attention was paid, and many inspections of premises made, in respect of the important matter of securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in the handling and distribution of food. Food Byelaws are in operation in the area, and the general improvement reported last year has been maintained. Kitchen hygiene in some hotels and restaurants was found to be not always entirely satisfactory during the summer months and there is no doubt that shortages of staff, and the employment of casual persons having little or no knowledge in kitchen hygiene, was partly responsible. It also appears to be clear that a permanently high standard of kitchen hygiene can be encouraged only by frequent inspections and re-inspections by the Public Health Officers. Unfortunately, other urgent business of the Council during the summer months makes possible only the minimum of visits and inspections.

As reported under "Bakeries," satisfactory results were achieved in securing the adequate protection from contamination of bread during door-to-door delivery.

Following informal action, the use of suitable sterilizing agents in dish-washing water and for general kitchen hygiene purposes has become a regular practice in the principal hotels and restaurants.

Notices requesting the public not to take dogs into foodshops were distributed to all food traders together with a request that the notices be prominently displayed at entrances. The large majority of traders welcomed the action taken in this matter by the Council, as a result of which there has been a good response by the public. It is hoped soon to arrange for the replacement of the paper notices issued, by permanent type notices.

## FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING 1951.

### Meat:

Beef, fresh	....	....	—	....	12 lbs.
Turkey	....	....	—	....	12 lbs.
Ham	....	....	39 tins	....	531 lbs.
Luncheon meat	....	....	7 tins	....	9 lbs.
Minced meat	....	....	2 tins	....	2 lbs.
Veal	....	....	1 tin	....	6 lbs.

Ham loaf....	2 tins	2 lbs.
Chicken ....	3 tins	14 lbs.
Pork and beef loaf	2 tins	2 lbs.
Sausages ....	1 tin	1 lb.
Veal loaf ....	2 tins	2 lbs.
Pork luncheon meat	1 tin	4 lbs.
Pork ....	1 tin	2 lbs.
Fish:		
Herrings ....	7 tins	11 lbs.
Sardines ....	3 tins	2 lbs.
Crab ....	5 tins	2 lbs.
Pilchards ....	1 tin	1 lb.
Fruit:		
Pears ....	5 tins	18 lbs.
Grapefruit ....	4 tins	4 lbs.
Prunes ....	5 cases	65 lbs.
Greengages ....	6 tins	12 lbs.
Plums ....	2 tins	2 lbs.
Apricots ....	2 tins	2 lbs.
Apples ....	1 tin	5 lbs.
Milk:		
Evaporated milk	27 tins	27 lbs.
Condensed milk ....	19 tins	19 lbs.
Milk powder ....	2 tins	224 lbs.
Vegetables:		
Tomatoes ....	13 tins	27 lbs.
Peas ....	6 tins	6 lbs.
Beetroot ....	2 tins	2 lbs.
Carrots ....	3 tins	6 lbs.
Potatoes ....	1 tin	6 lbs.
Other Foods:		
Cheese ....	3 boxes	2 lbs.
Sweet Corn ....	3 tins	3 lbs.
Jam ....	10 tins	20 lbs.
Soup ....	9 tins	5 lbs.
Molasses ....	1 tin	2 lbs.
Marmalade ....	4 tins	8 lbs.
Jellies ....	2 pkgs.	20 lbs.
Biscuits ....	15 tins	90 lbs.

## PORT SANITATION

No action was required under the Port Sanitary Regulations.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Twenty-one visits of inspection were made in connection with infectious disease control.

### Disinfection:

Rooms and contents fumigated	....	....	19
Caravans and contents fumigated	....	....	6
Bedding steam disinfected (lots)	....	....	5
Clothing steam disinfected (lots)	....	....	3

## MOVABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING GROUNDS.

Movable dwellings on camping grounds have been controlled by the Council for many years by means of Byelaws made under the provisions of the Essex County Council Act, 1933, but as reported last year the growth and popularity of caravan camping in Walton-on-Naze since the War has made it apparent that a greater measure of control is necessary for regulating efficiently the sanitary circumstances of Sites.

Accordingly, the Council made application to the Minister of Local Government & Planning for an order declaring Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to be in force in the Urban District. The order, cited as The Frinton & Walton Urban District (Movable Dwellings and Camping Grounds) Order 1951, was made on 17th March, and came into operation on the 9th April, 1951.

Land used as Sites for movable dwellings was subsequently licensed by the Council in accordance with the provisions of the new power of control, all licenses being granted subject to compliance by Site occupiers with a set of sanitary conditions designed to control the numbers and classes of movable dwellings kept on Sites, the space to be kept free between any two such dwellings and for securing sanitary conditions.

Some relaxation of the Conditions was found to be necessary during the year because of Building Licence restrictions, but when Site occupiers have been able to comply fully with the licence Conditions the effect will be that more and improved sanitary facilities will be available for a reduced number of caravanners.

Supervision of Sites during the year was carried out, and frequent inspections made for the purpose. In general, the sanitary condition of Sites was found to be satisfactory whenever inspected. Attention is being directed to the provision of adequate sanitary arrangements at a new Camping Site in course of development.

The following improvements were carried out at Sites:—

Additional Sanitary and Washing Blocks provided	2
Extension to existing sanitary block	1
Improvements to sanitary accommodation	12
Sanitary accommodation provided with electric light	3
Boundary fencing provided	5
Additional water standpipes provided	2
Improved drainage arrangements	5

There are in Walton-on-Naze 7 camping grounds providing accommodation for approximately 2,500 campers. In addition, the L.C.C. Martello Camp provides for parties of approximately 550 School children every fortnight throughout the summer months, and the Military Camp beyond Walton Hall accommodates units of the Territorial and Cadet Army during July and August. Youth Organizations also encamp for short periods in various parts of the area.

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ a part-time rodent operator trained in the scientific destruction of rats and mice. A second operator is available for service if required. The work of rodent control is carried out strictly in accordance with the directions and instructions of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries. Close liaison is maintained with the Divisional Rodent Officer and his Inspector, and also with the Pest's Officer of the Essex Agricultural Executive Committee.

No. of Properties inspected	....	....	....	221
No. of Properties found to be infested			....	181
No. of Properties treated	....	....	....	176
No. of Inspections made	....	....	....	528

Private dwelling-houses are treated free of charge, but the cost of treating business premises is charged to occupiers.

All Council undertakings are regularly inspected and treated as required.

## MOSQUITO DESTRUCTION

The spraying of mosquito breeding areas is carried out with Larvicide at the appropriate season of the year.

## PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

During 1951, licenses to keep petroleum-spirit were granted in respect of 18 premises. The total quantity of petrol kept is 17,825 gallons.

## SUNSHINE AND RAIN

No records for the full year are available, as the Meteorological Observer retired in June. It had not been possible by the end of the year to find a successor.



## SECTION E

### HOUSING

**General.** A total number of 273 inspections were made of 127 dwelling-houses of which 64 were found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 41 Dwellings were made fit for habitation as a result of informal action taken by the Council, and this number includes 11 premises in respect of which works of major rehabilitation were carried out. Housing complaints were dealt with as they arose.

Several garages and stores, obstructing natural lighting and air circulation to adjacent dwellings, were demolished by owners after representations.

An Undertaking under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, given by the owner of tenement premises to the Council not to use the premises for habitation until such time as they have been rendered fit for that purpose, was cancelled during the year upon the property being satisfactorily renovated.

A railway carriage, previously in use as permanent housing accommodation, was closed for habitation.

**Hutted Camp, Great Holland.** At the end of 1951, 10 families remained in occupation of Hutments. Hutments are demolished upon vacation. Of the original 14 Hutments at the Camp, 8 are still occupied.

**Requisitioned Accommodation.** The number of premises held under requisition for housing purposes remains the same as last year. 61 Families are housed in 57 houses.

**Council Housing Estates.** There are 122 Council houses in the area, viz.:—

Frinton-on-Sea	...	...	...	...	...	16
Walton-on-Naze	...	...	...	...	...	68
Kirby-le-Soken	...	...	...	...	...	20
Great Holland	...	...	...	...	...	18

No new Council houses were provided during the year, but a start was made on the erection of houses on the Council's Bemerton Housing Estate, Kirby Cross, the Contract for 28 semi-detached three-bedroom houses being let. Tenders were also invited for 12 similar houses and 8 one and two bedroom bungalows. It is expected that an appreciable number of these will be completed in 1952.

Building Licenses were issued for three new buildings, two war destroyed rebuilds and conversions providing three additional units of accommodation. One new dwelling, seven war destroyed rebuilds and two conversion units were also completed.

Building Licenses to the value of approximately £44,112 were granted in respect of new houses and repairs to houses costing more than £100.

## Total Houses erected since 1946:

1946	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
1947	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
1948	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
1949	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
1950	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
1951	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

## Re-Housing of Inadequately Housed Persons.

Eight families were re-housed in requisitioned accommodation and Council houses during 1951.

At the end of the year the number of inadequately housed families on the Council's Waiting List for housing or re-housing accommodation was 279, including 119 families without separate homes.

A "points" system of allocating available houses is in operation.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-Houses during the year 1951:—
  - (i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .... 127
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .... 273
  - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .... 64
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of informal Notices:—
 

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .... 41
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—
  - (a) Proceedings under Section 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936.
    - (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .... —
    - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notice:—
      - (a) By Owners .... —
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .... —
  - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
    - (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which legal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .... 1
    - (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—
      - (a) By Owners .... 1
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .... —



- (c) Proceedings under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... —
  - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... —
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... —
  - (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit ..... —

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious diseases notified during 1951.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	10	1	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—
Pneumonia	15	—	—
Measles	64	—	—
Whooping Cough	22	—	—
Hepatitis	3	1	—
Totals	117	3	—

Distribution of the cases notified:—

	Frinton	Walton	Kirby	Gt. Holland
Scarlet Fever	2	3	3	2
Dysentery	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	2	—	—
Pneumonia	10	1	—	4
Measles	35	17	3	9
Whooping Cough	5	16	1	—
Hepatitis	—	—	3	—
Totals	53	39	10	15

Since the late war there has been a country wide increase in certain diseases such as Poliomyelitis, Infective Hepatitis, Dysentery, and Food Poisoning. Food Poisoning is widespread, and few of us have not suffered the distress of an attack. Cases and carriers (persons may carry the germs in their bodies without suffering any illness) of such diseases excrete the germs causing the disease by the bowel during defaecation and to a lesser extent during the passage of urine. The fingers of a person excreting germs in this way are certain to become contaminated after use of the lavatory, and from the fingers the germs may be spread to other susceptible persons unless the fingers are decontaminated by adequate washing with soap, water, and a nail brush.

Germs which cause disease in man can rapidly multiply outside the human body if given favourable conditions. If given suitable food which contains moisture, sufficient time and a temperature approaching blood heat, a very few germs can become many millions in 24-48 hours. They thrive on such food as processed meats, sausages, meat pies, milk, custards and other made up dishes. Knowledge of these facts shows the way to prevent food becoming contaminated and how to minimise the risk should food accidentally become contaminated.

First of all we must realise that germs are so small that thousands of them heaped together cannot be seen by the naked eye. Food may be heavily contaminated yet look and smell all-right and some germs (those causing food poisoning particularly) during multiplication produce a poison in the food which is not destroyed by boiling or roasting, although the germs themselves would be killed. For practical purposes this means that re-heating or re-cooking is not a certain safeguard.

There are certain principles which should be adopted to prevent food poisoning and other diseases. First, a person who is liable to cause infection of food should not be engaged in the preparation of food. Persons who suffer from looseness of the bowel, or skin diseases, boils, cuts, sore throats, heavy colds, etc., are likely to harbour dangerous germs, and such persons should not prepare food for others. All food handlers must be really conscientious in cleaning their hands after use of the toilet. This should be done with soap, hot water, and a nail brush, and must never be omitted. Finger nails should be kept short and clean. Smoking should be discouraged, as also should nose-picking and scratching.

Food should be prepared and eaten on the same day. If this is done the time factor will be shortened which is very important. If this is not possible then all food should be stored in a refrigerator. These germs will not multiply at near freezing temperatures, although freezing will not destroy them.

Food should be safeguarded against dust or dirt. There is always danger in dirt. Rats and mice, cats and dogs, flies ; all play a part in contaminating food, and those persons in the food trade who are conscious of their responsibilities never allow such in their premises.

Most persons will co-operate if they understand the reasons and the principles involved in food hygiene, and much of our time is engaged in persuading and adjudicating food handlers towards higher standards.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

For the sixth year in succession, Frinton & Walton has been free from Diphtheria. During 1951, 12 children between one and five years received the full course of inoculations at the clinic. 5 children received a secondary or reinforcing injection.

The mortality and incidence of Diphtheria for the whole country continues to fall. In 1951, deaths numbered 34 against a yearly average of about 2,800 between 1930 and 1940. Nevertheless it is disturbing to learn, possibly because the fear of Diphtheria has declined, that fewer and fewer of parents are presenting their babies for immunisation. It is vital to secure that not less than 75 per cent of babies are immunised before their first birthday, while it is estimated that only 28 per cent of children under one year old were immunised during 1951. If parents leave their children unprotected, there may be a return of Diphtheria outbreaks.

## VACCINATION

Vaccination is no longer compulsory ; it is however, the only known protection against smallpox. Although smallpox only occasionally occurs in this country due to the arrival from abroad of an infected person, and outbreaks have rapidly been brought under control by energetic action on the part of Public Health Departments, nevertheless, smallpox is one of the most fatal diseases and approximately 30 per cent of the un-vaccinated who contract the disease, die.

Vaccination of infants is easily carried out, and causes very little disturbance in the children. Parents are strongly urged to have their infants protected against this dangerous disease.

## CANCER

22 deaths were caused by this disease giving a rate per thousand of the population of 2.7.

Cancer affecting certain parts of the body, if treated early, is curable. Medical science can cure approximately 95 per cent of all skin cancers, but only 80 per cent are being cured. Stomach cancers are curable in 80 per cent of cases, but only 23 per cent are being cured. 95 per cent of breast cancers can be cured but only 47 per cent of such cases are being cured. Rectal cancer could be cured in 85 per cent of cases, but only 14 per cent actually are being cured.

The tragic gap between the curable and the cured can be blamed on the fact that most cases are in the late stage before they consult their doctor or are seen by the surgeon.

A National Campaign to educate members of the public concerning cancer would help to shorten this delay between the onset of symptoms and the seeking of medical advice.

Cancer death rates for Frinton & Walton since 1933 (per thousand population):—

1933	....	2.7	1943	....	2.0
1934	....	1.6	1944	....	3.3
1935	....	0.9	1945	....	3.6
1936	....	1.6	1946	....	3.2
1937	....	2.0	1947	....	1.8
1938	....	1.8	1948	....	2.6
1939	....	2.6	1949	....	2.8
1940	....	1.9	1950	....	2.7
1941	....	2.0	1951	....	2.7
1942	....	2.3			

## TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of cases notified and deaths occurring during the year 1951 are given below:—

Ages in Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0- 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

New cases .... 1

Deaths .... Nil

Notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis since 1939:—

Year	New Cases	Deaths
1939	7	5
1940	3	2
1941	5	4
1942	4	4
1943	3	2
1944	4	1
1945	5	1
1946	2	1
1947	11	1
1948	7	2
1949	2	3
1950	1	2
1951	1	—

The following figures give the number of cases on the register at the end of 1951:—

Respiratory Male	....	17	Non-Respiratory Male	....	5
„ Female	....	12	„ Female	....	8
Total	....	29	Total	....	13

TOTAL CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1951 .... 42

The 42 cases of Tuberculosis were notified as follows:—

Age groups in years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
1- 5	—	—	—	4	4
5-15	1	—	2	2	5
15-25	3	2	—	1	6
25-35	5	5	1	—	11
35-45	6	3	2	1	12
45-55	1	1	—	—	2
55-65	1	1	—	—	2
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	17	12	5	8	42



